

# Navajo Abandoned Uranium Mine Site Screen Report

*This form is for use at the site of abandoned uranium mines (AUM) located on Navajo Nation lands. Applicable sites include all mine and mine features that have or have not undergone reclamation by the Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program, including features, adits and pits. Applicable sites also include all AUM sites listed in the USEPA CERCLIS database, all sites listed in the 2008 AUM GIS Report issued by USACOE and USEPA, all AUM sites on allotment lands associated with the Navajo Nation, and any and all AUM sites lands not listed in any database located on Navajo lands. Reconnaissance of any sites located on lands adjacent to Navajo lands but that are or may be impacting Navajo lands will need to be coordinated with the authorities appropriate to those lands.*

*The purpose of the form is to ascertain the status and location of the identified AUM site, to record all immediate site information associated with the mine site and to document the recommendation and/or decision on what additional steps, if any, are needed at the site.*

## Section 23 AUM Site

### Navajo AUM Eastern Region

**Prepared by:**

**Weston Solutions, Inc.**

**Contract: W91238-06-F-0083**

**12767.063.496.1111**

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**Part I Site Identification, Location and Status****Site Names and ID numbers as applicable****Mine ID:** 364**Map ID:** E90**CERCLIS:** NNN 000 908 745**NAMLRP:** NOT ASSIGNED**New Mexico Mining and Mineral Division ID:** NM0100**New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources:** NMMK0207**Local name / Aliases:** N/A**Chapter and local area:** Baca/Haystack Chapter**Lat/Long:** 35.3345760582 N / -107.861594736 W**Nearby road and highway:** Haystack Road (BIA 23), Interstate 40**Local Post Office:** Prewitt, NM**Land Status: check one or more and provide ownership and contact information below**

<b>Tribal Trust Land</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Tribal Fee Land</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Allotment</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Fee land</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Public lands</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Private</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Bureau of Land Mgmt</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>State</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Ownership and contact information:**

The Section 23 mine site property is classified as Navajo Tribal Fee land and Indian Allotment land. A private house is currently located within the site.

## Part II Site Observations

**Observed Structures:** list number of and describe human habitation status of structures at the following distances from mine:

**0 to 200 feet:** 1 house is located within the north-central portion of the site. the house has been recently constructed, set on excavated cover material. Water is brought in from an outside source and stored in an underground poly-tank.

**200 feet to 0.25 mile:** 5 trailer homes were located from 250 – 500 feet southwest of the site.

**Observed Public or commercial structure: list and describe all schools, clinics, Chapter Houses, places of business and any other structure used by members of the community at the following distances:**

**0 to 200 feet: None**                      **200 feet to 0.25 mile: None**

**Levels measured around the perimeter(s) of the identified structure(s):**

- The onsite house was measured at gamma radiation level upto 327,456 counts per minute (cpm)
- The levels near the trailer homes were found to be less than two-times background levels.

**Observed water sources:** list the number and type of wells and surface water sources that are potentially used for human consumption at the following distances from the mine:

**0 to 0.25 miles:** None                      **.25 miles to 4 miles:** None

**Known Site History:** include information from interviews with Chapter officials and residents.

**Note information on mine ownership, period of operation, and type of mining operation.**

The Section 23 mine consists of an area of 71,269.59 square meters. Any historical information pertaining to mining operations and historical ownership of the mine site appeared to be unclear.

**Part III      Type, number and reclamation status of mine features**

**Provide description and reclamation status of all mine sites and features at site. Include all waste piles, adits, pits and other features, and indicate whether they are open, closed, covered, capped, buried or unreclaimed. Indicate approximate size, shape and extent, including description of any reclamation caps. Note condition of all reclamation caps.**

Reclamation status of the mine site is currently unknown. Local residents stated that several open pits had been filled in the western portion of the site, and the resident of the onsite house claimed that the house was built on excavated cover material. No adits or other mine features were observed during the site visit.

**Part IV      Summary of radiological readings****Background Locations**

#1 12,512 cpm

#1 10,487 cpm

**Mine site: Section 23**

- See Figures 1 and 2

**Nearby Structure Perimeter – None****Describe any other radiological measurements:**

A total of 3,315 gamma radiation measurements were collected from mine sites, ranging from 5,802 cpm to 327,456 cpm. Measurements were found at their highest near the onsite house. The measurements are represented in Figures 1 and 2.

**Part V            Site sketch of all mine features and readings, including locations of all structures, sources of drinking water and any other important features and radiological readings.**

Presented in Figures 1 and 2

## **Part VI        Response Action Summary**

**Site Name(s):** Section 23      **Chapter:** Baca/Haystack

### **Decision Criteria**

**Is there an unreclaimed waste pile at the site?** No

**At what distance from the waste pile is the nearest residential structure located?** N/A

**At what distances from the waste pile are there potential drinking water sources?** N/A

**Is there a reclamation cap or sealed adit in place at the site?** No

**Is the cap/seal functionally intact?** N/A

**Is the cap/seal sufficiently degraded to create a concern about releases?** N/A

**At what distance from the cap/seal is the nearest domestic structure located?**  
N/A

**At what distance from the cap/seal is the nearest domestic drinking water source?** N/A

### **Summary of emergency response factors**

Gamma radiation at greater than two-times background was found at the site, one residence was found on the site property., and five residences are located within ¼ mile of the mine. No drinking water sources were found in the vicinity of the site.

### **Summary hazard ranking system factors**

None

### **Summary of reclamation factors**

No known reclamation

## Part VII      Photos



Photo 1. Section 23 mine site, eastern area, towards the east



Photo 2. Section 23 mine site, house compound located onsite, towards the west



Photo 3. Section 23 mine site, western area, towards the west



Photo 4. Section 23 mine site, western area, towards the south





Photo 5. Section 23 mine site, former open pit in the western area, towards the north

**Part VIII      Contacts Reports and Information**Name Matthew ChaffinsTitle or official role (if any) residentTelephone number POBox 2372, Milan NMInformation provided Lives in house onsite, house is recently constructed

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Name Stanley EdisonTitle or official role (if any) Navajo EPA Superfund ProgramAddress PO Box 2946, Window Rock, AZ 86515Telephone number 928-871-6861Information provided General Background and Contact/Access Information

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Name Ms George PadillaTitle or official role (if any) Regional Environmental Scientist, BIA, Navajo NationTelephone number (505) 863-8434Address PO Box 1060, Gallup, NM 87305

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title or official role (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

Information provided \_\_\_\_\_

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